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Reply to Office Action of July 5, 2005

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## Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

## Listing of Claims:

      1.     (Canceled)

1        2.     (Currently amended): ~~The document management/EDI system linkage~~

2  ~~unit according to claim 1, wherein~~A document management/EDI system linkage unit,

3  comprising:

4          a document management means having an accumulation means that assigns a

5  version to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control

6  means that manages version control information for the accumulation;

7          an EDI means that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

8          a linkage means that links the document management means and the EDI means,

9  that acquires sending information of the EDI data from the EDI means, and that registers sending

10  information of the EDI data in the version control information of the relevant transaction

11  document when the accumulated transaction document and the particular version are selected

12  and attached to the EDI data, wherein the EDI data is sent by the EDI means,

13          wherein the EDI means comprises a means for receiving EDI data, and

14          wherein the linkage means comprises a means which discerns a relevant

15  transaction of the transaction document attached to the EDI data and, when a transaction

16  document is attached to the received EDI data and the attached transaction document is discerned

17  as a document of a transaction already in progress, accumulates the attached document as the

18  latest version of the relevant transaction document which is managed with relation to the

19  electronic transaction, and, when the attached transaction document is discerned as a document

20  of a new electronic transaction, accumulates the attached document as the first version of a new

21  document and registers receiving information of the EDI data in the version control information.

1　　　　　3.　　　(Currently amended):　The document management/EDI system linkage

2　unit according to claim 1, A document management/EDI system linkage unit, comprising:

3　　　　　　　　　a document management means having an accumulation means that assigns a

4　version to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control

5　means that manages version control information for the accumulation;

6　　　　　　　　　an EDI means that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

7　　　　　　　　　a linkage means that links the document management means and the EDI means,

8　that acquires sending information of the EDI data from the EDI means, and that registers sending

9　information of the EDI data in the version control information of the relevant transaction

10　document when the accumulated transaction document and the particular version are selected

11　and attached to the EDI data, wherein the EDI data is sent by the EDI means,

12　　　　　　　　　wherein the linkage means deletes the sending information of the EDI data from

13　the version control information when a sending error occurs or sending is disabled in the EDI

14　data sent by the EDI means.


1　　　　　4.　　　(Currently amended):　The document management/EDI system linkage

2　unit according to claim 1, A document management/EDI system linkage unit, comprising:

3　　　　　　　　　a document management means having an accumulation means that assigns a

4　version to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control

5　means that manages version control information for the accumulation;

6　　　　　　　　　an EDI means that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

7　　　　　　　　　a linkage means that links the document management means and the EDI means,

8　that acquires sending information of the EDI data from the EDI means, and that registers sending

9　information of the EDI data in the version control information of the relevant transaction

10　document when the accumulated transaction document and the particular version are selected

11　and attached to the EDI data, wherein the EDI data is sent by the EDI means,

12　　　　　　　　　wherein the document management means comprises a lock means for

13　temporarily inhibiting the update of a document, and

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14     the linkage means temporarily inhibits the update of the relevant transaction

15 document using the lock means when the transaction document is sent by the EDI means, and

16 cancels update inhibition at least when the transaction document is received, a transaction is

17 terminated and sending is disabled.


     5.  (Canceled)


1     6.  (Currently amended):  ~~The document management/EDI system linkage~~

2 ~~method according to claim 5, wherein~~A document management/EDI system linkage method,

3 comprising:

4     a document management step having an accumulation step that assigns a version

5 to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control step that

6 manages version control information for the accumulation;

7     an EDI step that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

8     a linkage step that links the document management step and the EDI step,

9 acquires sending information of the EDI data in the EDI step, and registers the sending

10 information in the version control information of the relevant transaction document when the

11 accumulated transaction document and the version are selected and attached to the created EDI

12 data, wherein the EDI data is sent in the EDI step,

13     wherein in the EDI step the EDI data is received, and

14     wherein in the linkage step, a relevant transaction of the transaction document

15 attached to the EDI data is discerned and, when a transaction document is attached to the

16 received EDI data and the attached transaction document is discerned as a document of a

17 transaction already in progress, the attached document is accumulated as the latest version of the

18 relevant transaction document which is managed with relation to the electronic transaction and,

19 when the attached transaction document is discerned as a document of a new electronic

20 transaction, the attached document is accumulated as the first version of a new document and the

21 receiving information of the EDI data is registered in the version control information.

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1       7.     (Currently amended): ~~The document management/EDI system linkage~~

2  ~~method according to claim 5,~~ A document management/EDI system linkage method, comprising:

3       a document management step having an accumulation step that assigns a version

4  to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control step that

5  manages version control information for the accumulation;

6       an EDI step that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

7       a linkage step that links the document management step and the EDI step,

8  acquires sending information of the EDI data in the EDI step, and registers the sending

9  information in the version control information of the relevant transaction document when the

10  accumulated transaction document and the version are selected and attached to the created EDI

11  data, wherein the EDI data is sent in the EDI step,

12       wherein the linkage step deletes the sending information of the EDI data from the

13  version control information when a sending error occurred or sending was disabled in the EDI

14  data sent in the EDI step.

1       8.     (Currently amended): ~~The document management/EDI system linkage~~

2  ~~method according to claim 5,~~ A document management/EDI system linkage method, comprising:

3       a document management step having an accumulation step that assigns a version

4  to a prepared transaction document and accumulates the document and a version control step that

5  manages version control information for the accumulation;

6       an EDI step that creates and sends EDI data for an electronic transaction; and

7       a linkage step that links the document management step and the EDI step,

8  acquires sending information of the EDI data in the EDI step, and registers the sending

9  information in the version control information of the relevant transaction document when the

10  accumulated transaction document and the version are selected and attached to the created EDI

11  data, wherein the EDI data is sent in the EDI step,

12       wherein in the document management step, the update of a document is

13  temporarily inhibited as a lock control, and

14       in the linkage step, the update of the relevant transaction document is temporarily

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15     inhibited by executing the lock control when the transaction document was sent through the EDI

16     step, and, update inhibition is canceled at least when the transaction document is received, a

17     transaction is terminated, and sending is disabled.

         9.       (Canceled)

1           10.       (Currently amended): ~~The information recording medium according to~~

2     ~~claim 9, wherein~~An information recording medium of which the contents can be read on a

3     computer, and that records a program for executing:

4             a document management procedure including an accumulation procedure by

5     which a version is assigned to a prepared transaction document and the document accumulated,

6     and a version control procedure by which version control information for the accumulation is

7     managed;

8             an EDI procedure by which EDI data for an electronic transaction is created and

9     sent by an EDI means; and

10            a linkage procedure by which the document management procedure and the EDI

11     procedure are linked, by which sending information of the EDI data in the EDI procedure is

12     acquired and the sending information in the version control information of the relevant

13     transaction document is registered when the accumulated transaction document and the particular

14     version are selected and attached to the EDI data, wherein the EDI data is sent by the EDI means,

15            wherein in the EDI procedure, the EDI data is received, and

16            wherein in the linkage procedure, a relevant transaction of the transaction

17     document attached to the EDI data is discerned and, when a transaction document is attached to

18     the received EDI data and the attached transaction document is discerned as a document of a

19     transaction already in progress, the attached document is accumulated as the latest version of the

20     relevant transaction document which is managed with relation to the transaction and, when the

21     transaction document is discerned as a document of a new transaction, the attached document is

22     accumulated as the first version of a new document and the receiving information of the EDI

23     data registered in the version control information.

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11-12. (Canceled)

1 13. (Previously presented): The document management/EDI system linkage

2 unit according to claim 3, wherein the document management means comprises a lock means for

3 temporarily inhibiting the update of a document, and the linkage means temporarily inhibits the

4 update of the relevant transaction document using the lock means when the transaction document

5 is sent by the EDI means, and cancels update inhibition at least when the transaction document is

6 received, a transaction is terminated and sending is disabled.

14. (Canceled)

1 15. (Previously presented): The document management/EDI system linkage

2 method according to claim 7, wherein in the document management step, the update of a

3 document is temporarily inhibited as a lock control, and in the linkage step, the update of the

4 relevant transaction document is temporarily inhibited by executing the lock control when the

5 transaction document was sent through the EDI step, and, update inhibition is cancelled at least

6 when the transaction document is received, a transaction is terminated, and sending is disabled.